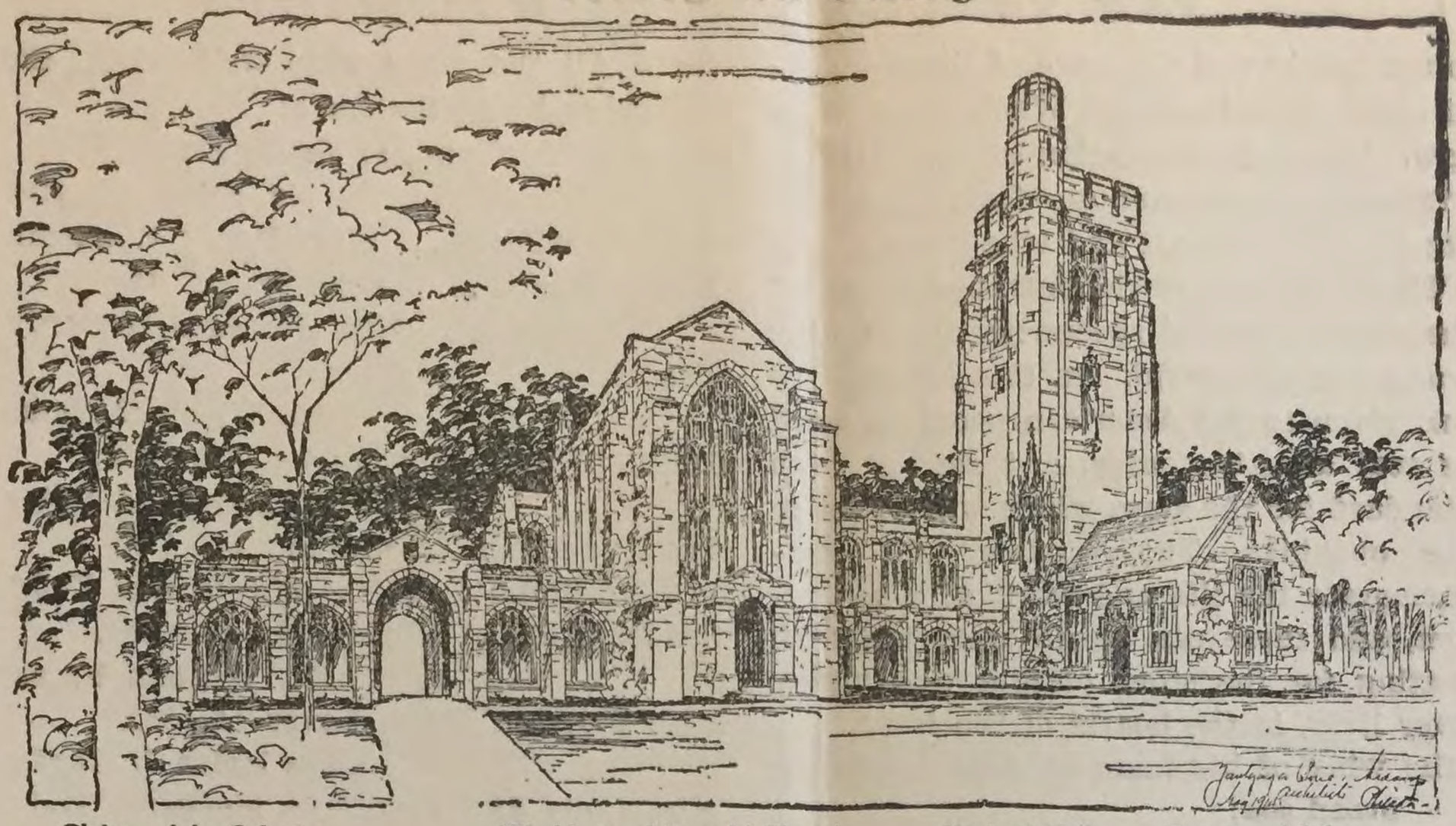
"For God and Country.



Cloister of the Colonies | Washington Memorial Chapel | Patriots' Hall | Tower and Library

"No spot on earth—not the plains of Marathon, nor the passes of Sempach, nor the place of the Bastile, nor the dykes of Holland, nor the moors of England—is so sacred in the history of the struggle for human liberty as Valley Forge."

—CYRUS TOWNSEND BRADY

The Washington Chapel Chronicle

Valley Forge.

A MONTHLY RECORD OF RELIGION AND PATRIOTISM.

THE REV. W. HERBERT BURK, Editor and Publisher. The Defenders' Gate, Valley Forge.

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Progress.

Work on the Chapel has been stopped for the winter as it is impossible to set the carved limestone in freezing weather. In another week the masons could have completed the nave, choir and organ chamber. The great choir arch has been turned, and some of the wall built upon it. The plank roof has been built over four of the five bays of the nave, and this has been covered with roofing paper. The exterior walls of the organ chamber have been built and the gable awaits the coping.

The work in the shops is going on apace. Workmen are engaged in cutting and carving the sedilia and the reredos, and in making those State Panels which have been ordered. This means that in a very few weeks after the building season opens the Chapel structure will be completed and many of the furnishings will be ready for use.

Meanwhile the Washington Memorial Chapel Committee is making great progress in securing the remaining furnishings as memorials. In another place we give the encouraging report of the progress of the committee.

The carpenters have moved their scaffolding back from the entrance, and thus there is given to visitors the opportunity

to see one bay of the nave of the completed chapel and the great Washington Window. There is inspiration in the unglazed window openings, and one feels the uplifting effect of real art and true beauty.

The window over the entrance is one of the most beautiful specimens of Gothic tracery in the world. In this Mr. Medary has given to the American people a work of real artistic genius, and set a high standard for the glass which will be set in the openings. The window will commemorate the life and work of Washington, and there can be no more beautiful setting for the story of him who "lives, ever lives, in the hearts of the free,

The wing of his fame spreads across the broad sea;
He lives where the banner of freedom's unfurled;
The pride of his country, the wealth of the world."

Christmas at the Chapel.

The most delightful Christmas in our history was enjoyed this year, and began very properly with the children's service on Christmas Eve, when we had the largest Christmas congregation since the Mission was established. The service was conducted by the Rector, who made a brief address. The music was in charge of Miss Mary M. Hibbs, the parish chorister. The Chapel was most tastefully decorated by Mrs. S. Col. Summerill

After the service everyone went to the Log Cabin for the social part of the program. A blazing fire was on the hearth and in the chimney corner was a beautiful Christmas tree. The young people had charge of the decorations and their work was both a surprise and a delight.

Recitations were given by Emily Kernen, Patsie Wadleigh, Anne Todd.

The event of the evening was the Rector's Christmas play, "A Christmas Party at Valley Forge." Mr. William Freas took the leading part, and as Spader kept the audience in a merry mood to the very last. All the parts were well taken, the following being the caste:

Colonel Woodland, of Valley Forge,
Mr. Sidney Coates
Mrs. Woodland ....Miss Emily Wadleigh
Dolly Hastings, daughter of the Woodlands .. Miss Florence McCurdy
Prudence, her daughter,
Miss Elizabeth Sohn
Billy, Colonel Woodland's grandson,
Mr. Raymond Buler
Tom, another grandson of Col. Woodland ..... Mr. George Todd
Spader, Colonel Woodland's servant,
Mr. William Freas
Miss Priscilla Prim, Lover of 1861,
Miss Helen McCurdy
Miss Polly Plummer, Miss Margaret Todd
Miss Scrubbs, the Music Teacher,
Miss Jane Todd
Children of Valley Forge—the Misses Alice Buler, Anne Todd and Patsie Wadleigh.
Major Williams, Officer of the Continental Army, 1777,
Mr. J. Howard McCurdy
Fred. Black, Continental Soldier,
Mr. Edward Wadleigh
John Race, Continental Soldier,
Mr. Norman McCurdy
Continental Soldier .... Mr. Rufus Buler
Santa Claus ..... Mr. John Hughes

At the close the players invited the audience to their Christmas party, which turned out to be a most enjoyable affair, for a good friend of the parish had provided the means for this part of the program. While the members of the school and their guests were enjoying the refreshments Santa Claus arrived and called upon "Spader" to assist him in the distribution of the gifts. The candy was provided by Mrs. Sarah Swift Zulich, who has gladdened the hearts of our scholars every Christmas by the gift of the Christmas candy. This year the boxes were even more attractive than usual. A unanimous vote of thanks was extended to Mrs. Zulich, to the Unknown Friend

and to the Rector for a most joyous Christmas Eve.

The members of the Sunday school at King-of-Prussia were brought over to share in the parish celebration.

There was a large attendance at the Christmas Service, when a special sermon was preached by the Rector.

The Credence.

In the November number of the Chronicle it was announced that Quaker City Chapter, D. A. R., had given one of the sedilia in memory of Mrs. George W. Kendrick. Since then it has been decided that the credence would be a more desirable memorial. The credence will be on the epistle side of the sanctuary, between the altar and the wall. It will be of Indiana limestone and above the stone shelf will be a carved canopy of very beautiful design, harmonizing with the reredos. The inscription will be cut in the stone above the shelf.

In the contract for the erection of Pohick Church, which was located by a survey made by George Washington, was the following clause "The Apostles Creed, the Lord's Prayer and the Ten Commandments to be neatly painted on the Altar-piece in black letters." This contract was signed by Washington as one of the vestrymen.

A meeting of the Vestry of Truro Parish, Virginia, was held June 5th, 1772, when the following minute was recorded:

"The Church Wardens are directed to agree with persons to make such Carved Ornaments on the Altar piece as they shall judge proper, and guilding the letters thereon with Gold Leaf, presented to this Parish by the Honble. George Wm. Fairfax and George Washington Esqs."

"The letters thereon" were those of the Creed, Lord's Prayer and Ten Commandments, mentioned in the contract which appear in many of our old churches. In the Washington Memorial Chapel there is no opportunity to place these in the large letters usually employed, but the interest which led Washington to give "Gold Leaf" to glorify these in Pohick Church will be commemorated in the Chapel dedicated to his memory. The credence given in honor of that good Christian patriot, Mrs. George W. Kendrick, will have its share of these expressions of Christian faith and worship and moral life, which did their part in the formation of the Christian character of Washington. On the flat surface over the table will be placed a tablet on which these words so dear to the heart of all Christians will be cast.

Memorials.

The Washington Memorial Chapel Building Committee has secured the following important memorials since our last report.

The Connecticut State Panel by Miss Edith D. Kingsbury, in memory of her father, Frederick John Kingsbury, 1833-1910, in the sum of $500.

The South Carolina State Ceiling Panel, by Mrs. Francis G. du Pont, of Montchanin, Wilmington, Delaware, in the sum of $500.

The Commander in Chief's Standard, by Messrs. C. C. Harrison, Jr. & Co., in the sum of $1,000.

The Bishop's Chair by Mrs. Charles Custis Harrison, in memory of Bishop White, in the sum of $1000.

Nave stained glass window, by Doctor and Mrs. Thomas G. Ashton in memory of Major General Benjamin Lincoln, in the sum of $5000.

NO VESTRY MEETING.

The attempt to hold a Vestry meeting on Monday, January 3, failed, although business of the utmost importance should have been transacted. Only Messrs. Quigg, Wilson and Walker were present.

Washington Memorial Chapel,

Valley Forge, Pa.

THE REV. W. HERBERT BURK, B. D.
RECTOR

Residence, The Defenders' Gate, Valley Forge.

Telephone, Port Kennedy, 34.

Chapel Telephone, Port Kennedy, 35—14 and 18L.

Mr. Frank Quigg, Vestry's Warden, Port Kennedy, Pa.; Mr. S. Col. Summerill, Rector's Warden, Port Kennedy, Pa.

VESTRYMEN.

Mr. Charles C. Harrison, Jr., Mr. Richard Haughton, Mr. Nathan B. Hughes, Mr. Leslie Jefferis, Mr. Frank Quigg, Mr. S. Col. Summerill, Mr. Henderson Supplee, Mr. Clayton Stephens Walker, Mr. C. Colket Wilson, Jr.

Miss Mary M. Hibbs, Chorister.
Miss Mary Pugh, Organist.
Mr. Louis Buler, Sexton.

Sundays.

10.45 A. M. Service and Sermon.
2.30 P. M. Sunday School and Bible Classes.
3.45 P. M. Service and Sermon.
Holy Communion, First Sunday.
Saints' Days, 9.30 A. M. Holy Communion.

King-of-Prussia:

9 A. M. Sunday School and Bible Classes.

The Valley Forge Museum of American History.

Curator, The Rev. W. Herbert Burk, B. D.
Assistant Curator, Mr. Reginald L. Hart.

The Washington Memorial Library.
Librarian, Mr. E. Russell Jones.

The Choir of the Washington Memorial Chapel.

The nave of the Washington Memorial Chapel impresses the visitor with its beautiful purity,—the walls, the clustered columns, and molded windows all cut in the white limestone. Beyond this will be the sanctuary, but there the white stone will be richly carved, and even the molding of the Martha Washington Window will be enriched with delicate carving.

Between the nave and the sanctuary will be the choir, and here against the white stone walls will be set the choir stalls, and above those on the right will be the elaborately carved screens of the organ. What this choir will be only those who have seen Henry the Seventh's Chapel at Westminster can imagine, for here, in a much smaller space, of course, there will be the many pinnacled canopies and rich coloring which makes that royal chapel a delight to the eye.

Here, as there, a flight of steps will lead up to it, through a deep but magnificent arch."

Washington Irving, to follow the author of the last quotation, thus describes the choir stalls in Henry the Seventh's Chapel:

"Along the sides of the chapel are the lofty stalls of the Knights of the Bath, richly carved of oak, though with the grotesque decorations of Gothic architecture. On the pinnacles of the stalls are affixed the helmets and crests of the knights, with their scarfs and swords; and above them are suspended their banners, emblazoned with armorial bearings, and contrasting the splendour of gold and purple and crimson, with the cold grey fretwork of the roof."

He goes on to say that there is "a sad dreariness in this magnificance; this strange mixture of tombs and trophies; these emblems of living and aspiring ambition, close beside mementos which show the dust and oblivion in which all must sooner or later terminate. Nothing im-

presses the mind with a deeper feeling of loneliness, than to tread the silent and deserted scene of former throng and pageant. On looking round on the vacant stalls of the knights and their esquires, and on the rows of dusty but gorgeous banners that were once borne before them, my imagination conjured up the scene when this hall was bright with the valour and beauty of the land; glittering with the splendor of jewelled rank and military array; alive with the tread of many feet, and the hum of an admiring multitude. All had passed away; the silence of death had settled again upon the place; interrupted only by the casual chirping of birds, which had found their way into the chapel and built their nests among its friezes and pendants—sure signs of solitariness and desertion. When I read the names inscribed on the banners, they were those of men scattered far and wide about the world; some tossing upon distant seas; some under arms in distant lands; some mingling in the busy intrigues of courts and cabinets: all seeking to deserve one more distinction in this mansion of shadowy honours—the melancholy reward of a monument."

Far different will be the effect of the Choir of the Washington Memorial Chapel, for here will be commemorated the bands of warriors who won our liberty and whose banners are still the proud emblems of a patriot soldiery walking the paths of industry and peace, but ready to take their place in the maintenance of those institutions for which men of former generations gave themselves so freely.

The Choir Stalls of the Chapel will commemorate those military organizations which took part in the Revolution, and which are still in existence, like the City Troop, of Philadelphia, and the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company, of Boston. The stalls will be of oak, and on each will be carved the figure of a member of the troop in uniform, and this will be properly colored. Above the stall will be placed a reproduction of the standard of the troop. No effort or expense will be spared to make these memorials worthy of the men in whose honor they will be given.

Through the courteous assistance of the Adjutant Generals of the thirteen original States, the Rector has been able to prepare the following list of those organizations which are to be honored with memorial choir stalls:

State of Delaware,
- None.

State of Pennsylvania,
- First Troop, Philadelphia City Cavalry.

State of New Jersey,
- None.

State of Georgia,
- The Georgia Hussars (known as Troop A. Cavalry).
- Chatham Artillery (known as Batteries A and C, Field Artillery).

State of Connecticut,
- 1st Company, Governor's Foot Guard.
- 2d Company, Governor's Foot Guard.
- Governor's Horse Guard (now Troop B. Cavalry).

State of Massachusetts,
- The Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Boston, March 17, 1638.
- Independent Company, October 16, 1741 (First Corps Cadets).

State of Maryland,
- Fifth Infantry, Maryland National Guard.

State of South Carolina,
- The Charleston Light Dragoons, 1732.
- The German Fusiliers, 1776.

State of New Hampshire,
- None.

State of Virginia,
- Culpepper Minute Men.
- The Richmond Light Infantry Blues Battalion.

State of New York,
None.
State of North Carolina,
None.
State of Rhode Island,
Newport Artillery Company, Newport. Chartered February 1, 1741.
Kentish Guards, East Greenwich. Chartered October 16, 1774.
United Train of Artillery, Providence. Chartered April 22, 1775.

THE CONVOCATION OF NORRISTOWN

The Convocation of Norristown will meet in St. Peter's Church, Phoenixville, February 3. The Rev. Norman Stockett, who has recently become rector of St. James' Church, Evansburg, will be the preacher.

SUPPER IN THE MARTHA WASHINGTON LOG CABIN.

On the 27th of January the Guild will serve a supper in the Martha Washington Log Cabin. That announcement ought to be enough to attract a large number of our members, friends and neighbors.

Mr. Burk to Remain at Valley Forge.

The office of Rector of the Washington Memorial Chapel is one both of honor and responsibility. The work is different from any in the Church, as it is so largely educational and patriotic. To create an organized parish, build a great memorial chapel, found a Museum of American History and an historical library, and win for them the support of generous friends has been no small task. In addition to the demands upon time and strength there have been many financial burdens to be borne as the price of progress. With the completion of the Chapel assured by the splendid efforts of the Washington Memorial Chapel Building Committee and within a few months of the happy realization of his dreams the Rev. Mr. Burk was confronted with the necessity of abandoning a work whose cost for years has so largely exceeded the salary. At this juncture the opportunity was presented of taking up a congenial work in a new field under most favorable circumstances. Because he realized his obligaton to the Church he laid the matter before the Bishop of the Diocese and awaited his decision. In the meantime a committee of prominent citizens of the neighborhood was organized with the purpose of assisting Mr. Burk until the endowment of the Chapel should be sufficient to meet the entire financial burden, if he would continue his work at Valley Forge. This generous offer has made it possible for Mr. Burk to act in accordance with Bishop Rhinelander's judgment, as expressed in the following letter, and remain at Valley Forge:

December 17, 1915.
Ember Day.

My dear Mr. Burk:

I have heard with great interest that the Vestry of ———— are turning in your direction for their new Rector. I do not wonder that they want you, and I am sure you would do excellently in that famous Parish, ————.

On the other hand, I feel it would be a real disaster if you were to give up your present post just at this time. You have stood by it manfully and faithfully for all these years in the face of greater difficulties than any one can realize. You had the vision of the work in the first place, and have staked everything upon it, and now I believe you are about to reap some of the fruits of your faith. What the accomplishment of your work will mean to the Diocese, Church and Nation, cannot be told. It has in it great possibilities, and it would be a disaster if anything now interfered to check its development. It seems to me that no one has ever been more clearly called to a special work than you have been. Therefore, I cannot but urge you very strongly to stay where you are, even though the trials and sacrifices are very great. As to this last, I believe

there is substantial relief close at hand, and I will promise personally to support you in every way I can.

Faithfully yours,
P. M. RHINELANDER.

The Rev. W. H. Burk.

LECTURES ON THE PRAYER BOOK.

The Rector will give another series of lectures for the Board of Religious Education of the Diocese of Pennsylvania. These will begin January 10 at 8 o'clock in Holy Trinity Parish House, Philadelphia. Mr. Burk's subject will be "The Prayer Book and Church Worship."

Roof of the Republic.

During the past month the Washington Memorial Chapel Building Committee has secured two more State Panels for the Roof of the Republic. These are given in honor of Connecticut and South Carolina.

The Connecticut State Ceiling Panel is given by Miss Edith D. Kingsbury, of Waterbury, Connecticut, in memory of her father, Mr. Frederick John Kingsbury, 1823-1910. Mr. Kingsbury became interested in the Chapel some years ago, and the Kingsbury Pew among the Pews of the Patriots is his gift. It bears the Kingsbury arms and the seal of the colony of Connecticut. The inscriptions are as follows:

In Memory of
Jacob Kingsbury
Norwich, Connecticut
Born July 6, 1756
Died July 1, 1837
Privateer, Private and Ensign in the
Revolution
Colonel First United States Infantry
Inspector General,
Eastern Division, 1814
Member of the Society of the Cincinnati
Of him William Henry Harrison,
President of the United States, said
in the Senate:

"My first Captain, than whom Sparta
nor Rome ever produced
a better soldier."
And in Memory of
John Kingsbury
his Brother
Born at Norwich, Connecticut
December 30, 1761
Died at Waterbury, in the same
State, August 26, 1844.
Privateer in two Voyages in the
Revolution
A Graduate of Yale College, 1786
Judge of the New Haven County Court
This Pew is given by their
Grandnephew and Grandson
Frederick John Kingsbury
at Waterbury, Connecticut
July, 1907.

The South Carolina State Ceiling Panel is the gift of Mrs. Francis G. du Pont, of Montchanin, Wilmington, Delaware. Mrs. du Pont, who was born in South Carolina, has honored her State by this gift, and it is to be hoped that her example of generous patriotism will be followed so that in the near future South Carolina will be represented in the Cloister of the Colonies as well as in the Roof of the Republic.

The following State Ceiling Panels have been given: Delaware, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Connecticut, Massachusetts, South Carolina, Virginia, New York, Ohio, Louisiana, Maine, Missouri, Texas, Oregon.

RAW MILITIA.

Men just dragged from the tender scene of domestic life, unaccustomed to the din of arms, totally unacquainted with every kind of military skill (which is followed by want of confidence in themselves, when opposed to troops, regularly trained, disciplined and appointed, superior in knowledge, and superior in arms), are timid and ready to fly from their own shadows. —Washington.

Girard College Students.

On December 31st over one hundred students of Girard College made a pilgrimage to Valley Forge under the direction of Professor Melchior. After visiting the Headquarters the students came to the Washington Memorial, where they were receivd by the Rector. A blazing fire on the hearth of the Martha Washington Log Cabin gave a cheering welcome, and the luncheon hour will long be remembered. Mr. and Mrs. Burk served coffee to the students, assisted by Mrs. F. J. Allen, the Misses McCurdy and Miss Weinberg. Hearty cheers expressed the appreciation of the students who went to the Chapel to hear an address by Mr. Burk. More than an hour was spent in the Museum by these students of American history to whom the large collection of relics was most instructive and inspiring. After leaving the Memorial the party visited the other points of interest at Valley Forge, and left for Philadelphia on a late afternoon train.

THE GUILD SUPPER.

The Washington Chapel Guild will give a supper in the Log Cabin on Thursday, January 27. The Guild has established a record for good suppers, and this devoted band of members deserves the generous support of all those who appreciate what the Washington Memorial Chapel is to the community.

Washington a Worthy Man.

Mr. Elias Boudinot in the course of a letter to his wife in speaking of Washington calls him a "worthy man," a title which meant much in those days. The letter was written at Valley Forge.

April 20, 1778.

I am getting my affairs in order to set off on Friday or Saturday altho' I am afraid the Genl. will object, as I plainly see it will greatly embarass him and worthy Man he has both Hands & Heart full—The Enemy are trying what they can do by throwing out proposals of Peace—God grant that we may be firm as it will be a Time of Tryal & they mean to effect delay.—"

(The Life, Public Service and Letters of Elias Boudinot, by J. J. Boudiniot).

WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY.

The Fourth Annual Service of the Boy Scouts of Montgomery and Delaware Counties will be held at the Chapel on Washington's Birthday at 3.30 o'clock. The address will be made by the Rector.

The Floor of the Old Log Cabin.

The Washington Chapel Guild has had a concrete floor laid in the Log Cabin. The cement was most generously given by Col. H. C. Trexler, of Allentown.

The work was done by the Messrs. Schnell, of Norristown, during the week beginning January 9. As the floor was not dry enough for use on the following Sunday the Parish Luncheon was served at the Defenders' Gate, and the Sunday school met in the frame chapel.

"Although we cannot, by the best concerted plans, absolutely command success, although the race is not always to the swift nor the battle to the strong, yet, without presumptuously waiting for miracles to be wrought, in our favor, it is our indispensable duty, with the deepest gratitude to Heaven for the past, and humble confidence in its smiles on our future operations, to make use of all means in our power for our defence and security."—Washington.

Mr. Reginald L. Hart has painted the window frames of the cabin and won the gratitude of the congregation for this good deed.